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National conference studies neighborhood-leader system

■ Representatives from each of 38 States, including directors, specialists, district agents, county agents, and neighborhood leaders, met for a 4-day session March 3 to 6 to take stock of the neighborhood-leader system of the Extension Service and to lay plans for a further development of a method which is proving its worth in agriculture's wartime program.

Secretary Wickard gave his support of the conference in the following letter sent to Director Wilson to be read to the members of the conference:

"I take the opportunity of this week's conference on the neighborhood-leader system to express my sincere appreciation of the splendid and patriotic service given by the neighborhood leaders of the cooperative extension services.

"It is little more than a year since I told you that I was depending on the Extension Service to train a much larger number of volunteer leaders to help in carrying forward all phases of agriculture's wartime program. That the confidence thus placed in Extension was merited is borne out by the fact that there now are more than 650,000 neighborhood leaders who have given voluntarily of their time to enlist the cooperation of their neighbors in vital war efforts on the farm. I am delighted that such progress is being made.

"As our farmers face the most trying food-production job ever asked of them, the neighborhood-leader system will be of even greater importance than in the past year. It is well that you are holding this conference for the purpose of learning from the past year's experience and strengthening the program for the coming year."

The situation as it now exists was set forth in three panel discussions. The first, by neighborhood leaders from New York, South Carolina, and Maryland, brought out many pertinent points from the viewpoint of the leaders themselves. Other panel discussions were devoted to the system as seen by the county agricultural and home demonstra-

tion agents and from the viewpoint of the State workers.

The heavy work of the conference was done in seven workshops. The first, on organization and objectives, pointed out the need for further effort on the delineation of natural neighborhoods and communities and on the selection, training, and recognition of neighborhood leaders. The establishment of community chairmen or other machinery to assist in guiding neighborhood leaders and the integration of the neighborhood-leader system with other extension methods to fit it into the community and its existing organizations were suggested. The importance of taking stock of the neighborhood-leader system to find out where we are and to think through and plan for needed adjustments, as well as further training of all extension personnel, was emphasized. More effort on an-

alyzing and making more specific the jobs the neighborhood leaders can do was recommended to produce effective results.

A steering committee at county, State, and Federal levels was recommended to guide, advise, and service the neighborhood-leader system. This group also expressed the need for considering further the contribution that may be made by the youth left on farms.

Another workshop studied and reported on the selection and planning of jobs for the leaders to do. They suggested that such jobs should be vital to the war effort—something urgent which should reach every family in the neighborhood in a relatively short time and require action on the part of the neighbors. The assignment should be specific and within the ability of the ordinary leader. It should be something which cannot be done better in any other way.

Other groups reported on training the neighborhood leader, on the kind of written material which can best be used by the leaders, on the type of recognition and support which is most helpful, the part which the specialist plays in the system, and on appraising the value of the work.

Utilizing every labor resource

■ Plans for maximum production are being crystallized as planting gets under way. Extension's part in the national labor program is to mobilize all local resources, inaugurate an efficiency-educational program, and help in making city women and youth available for work on farms. Reports indicate that agents are ready for action in each of these fields.

Some counties, as Summit County, Ohio, are setting up voluntary exchange centers in each township to share both labor and machinery with the maximum efficiency. Other counties are successfully using neighborhood leaders as in Clinton County, Ohio, where groups of neighborhood farmers work out their own problems and report to township chairmen. Two parishes in Louisiana put in a big acreage of string beans for canning and have arranged to dismiss school as soon as they are ready to pick.

In Minnesota, the Governor has appointed Director Miller as State manpower director,

and all of the agencies working on the problem have agreed to cooperate fully in developing a unified State program. A State committee, with Director Miller as chairman, has planned a unified program for the State. One subcommittee has developed a program for mobilization and placement in counties and communities. Under the Minnesota plan, trade area committees are set up by the county committee to consider the present placement organization and to recommend either a continuation of the present arrangement or specific changes. This committee will provide for listing the needs of the farmers in the trade center area and for mobilization in cooperation with the county committee.

Illinois reports that considerable progress has been made in local solutions to local problems arising from discussion at school district wartime educational meetings which have been made a big factor in stimulating farm thinking and action.

Farm and home week travels

Wisconsin seeks solution of transportation difficulties

■ Wisconsin's Farm and Home Week, bowing to emergency conditions for the third time in 39 years, went "on the road" this winter to reach farmers in every part of the State.

Ordinarily, Wisconsin's annual midwinter gathering of farmers and homemakers, like those in other States, is held on the campus and in the laboratories and feed lots of the State University. In 1914 and 1917, disease epidemics forced cancellation. This year, mileage rationing convinced Wisconsin college officials that they could not reasonably expect farm people to travel great distances.

Accordingly, plans were laid for eight separate farm and home weeks—one each at Antigo, in the northeastern corner of the State; Green Bay, a lake-shore city; Fond du Lac, in the east central section; Whitewater, in the southeast; Platteville, in the southwest; La Crosse, for the western area; Wisconsin Rapids, near the center of the State; and Rice Lake, in the far northwest.

Speakers Work in Relays

Each area had a 2-day program. Beginning Monday, January 18, three simultaneous meetings were opened at Antigo, one each on crops, livestock, and homemaking.

The next morning, the first corps of speakers moved on, and the same program was given at Green Bay. A meeting on prices, priorities, and rationing followed at Antigo. Then a second homemakers' section concluded the Antigo meeting on Tuesday afternoon, and those speakers continued to Green Bay. Meanwhile the livestock and crops people and the first homemaker group moved to Fond du Lac to open another program.

Four cities were visited in this fashion the first week, and the last of the second group was completed at Rice Lake, January 29. The second week, Associate Extension Director Warren Clark acted as chairman of the sessions devoted to prices, priorities, and rationing, which attracted urban as well as rural groups.

In the days when the program was held in Madison, the custom had been to award certificates of honorary recognition to outstanding farmers and homemakers. This year the recognition committee found that the six people to be honored were each from a different area, and that the two strong alternates were from the two remaining areas. The committee decided to recognize eight instead of six—one each at banquets in each area. At these ceremonies, Dean Chris L. Christensen represented the University in awarding the recognition certificates.

Banquet programs were planned to give farm people a rest from talk about farming, and a keener insight into national and world problems. The roster of speakers included Dr. John Earl Baker, former Inspector General of the Burma Road; Stanley Johnston, war correspondent in the South Pacific; Lt. Leona Jackson, navy nurse taken prisoner on Guam; President C. A. Dykstra of the University of Wisconsin; Ensigns Elton Wilkins and Lonnie Coker, just back from active duty in the Pacific; Noble Clark, Associate Director of the Wisconsin Experiment Station; and Carl Neprud, Commissioner of Chinese Customs. Each dinner was attended by one or two of these speakers. All eight banquets were sold out, and about 3,200 people attended.

Farmers Brave Bad Weather and Roads

Meetings at Antigo, Green Bay, and Fond du Lac had blizzards and subzero weather, Wisconsin's worst in years, for competition. Whitewater's program came as farm people were beginning to "dig themselves out." The last four meetings had much better weather, though road conditions were still difficult.

Although attendance at the eight meetings varied widely, local committees and university officials were highly satisfied with it and with the interest taken in the sessions. In each instance, the host county was widely represented, and adjoining counties invariably sent sizable delegations. Extension specialists and research workers alike commented on the number of new faces they saw.

In a studied review of the 2-week road tour, college people saw certain values as well as some weaknesses in the program.

The weather displayed its contrariness, but that is to be expected during a winter program. Certainly, such weather can bring its problems to a campus Farm and Home Week.

Missed Visits to Laboratories

A more important objection to the tour was that Farm and Home Week visitors were denied visits to the laboratories and other facilities available at Madison. Speakers exhibited charts to show that hogs need alfalfa and other green feeds. But that is a story which can be told far more strikingly at the feed lot than with the aid of a chart.

Extension people found that there is such a thing as a "natural" host town. The interest local people and local organizations take in preliminary plans helps to indicate what type of hosts they will be. This factor must not be underestimated in making plans for a traveling farm program of the Wisconsin type.

The ideal town, it seems agreed, is one large enough to handle a crowd without difficulty but not so large as to "smother" the meeting or to remove it completely from the farm background.

How Madison, the university town, felt about the plan and what it was accomplishing, is best expressed in extracts from an editorial in the Wisconsin State Journal:

"The modernized farmers' institute * * * stresses what farmers can do to meet the increased production quotas asked by the Federal Government.

"Research by the University is reported back at these sessions, and Wisconsin farmers will put the perfected practices into use in many ways. Seeds new to Wisconsin, different ways of planting, and other changes are outlined as aids to boosting production.

"The hazards in the way of reaching the goals are mountainous, but word comes back that the Wisconsin farmer is not awed or shouting quits. He is simply absorbing all the science he can get, and promising to put it to use to meet the production needed for feeding us, our fighters, and our allies."

As for farm people themselves, the program delighted them. The only objections were to the practice of conducting crop and livestock meetings simultaneously and thus competing with each other. Probably, another year, this would be changed.

Will Follow Plan for "Duration"

As to actual plans for another year, it is, of course, too early to make decisions. This year's meetings made clear that farmers will travel any reasonable distance for the information they need and want, even under abnormally bad weather conditions. Certainly, meetings on the campus are out of the question; but, on the basis of this year's experience, some place within 50 miles, the radius on which these Wisconsin meetings were based, appears to be a "reasonable" distance.

Plans for Farm and Home Week after the war are naturally getting little consideration now. Some rural people have expressed the opinion that they should like to keep Farm and Home Week on the road, bringing it right out to the farm. Others, recognizing the limitations of a traveling program, have entered the debate on the other side. The second opinion is best expressed by a prominent farmer, who told college people: "The new Farm and Home Week is good, and extra worth while now, because we can't go to Madison. But don't let it take the place of the old program—the exhibits, demonstrations, experiments, and crop and breed association meetings. The way you're doing it now is unquestionably the best for wartime. But those of us who have been at the regular program know that the new plan can't possibly offer as much as the old one did."

Increasing labor efficiency

■ With the general shortage of farm labor hitting all parts of the country, only two kinds of solution are possible. One is to get more labor and the other, to make better use of what we have.

E. R. Jackman, extension specialist in farm crops at Oregon State College, has concentrated on the second solution, with particular reference to saving labor in putting up hay. Hay is a vital factor in Oregon's dairy and livestock production, hence any reduction in hay supplies would be reflected in the Food-for-Victory campaign.

Jackman approached this task as he has many others. His first principle is, that to get a practical program working the experiences of successful farmers will have to be obtained. The next principle is, that to spread a new or improved idea it will have to be put into a form that will attract attention and get sympathetic hearing.

Following out this idea, he sent letters to scores of farmers in all parts of the State asking for their experiences in putting up hay with the least amount of labor. After receiving this information, Jackman compiled it and added his own observations. He then began sending it out to the county agents in his own distinctive and decidedly bright and interesting mimeographed letters.

His first letter on this program was sent out late in November 1941, when the prospective shortage of labor in 1942 was apparent. Numerous ways were discussed of "cheating the labor bogey" by using more pasture, hogging and sheeping off certain crops, employing crop rotations that will avoid use of extra labor, and using labor-saving machinery when the machinery itself could be had. In this letter, the hay program was only touched on by referring to the fact that pick-up balers are good business where hay is to be baled anyway, and that, in most places, the practice of cocking hay is wasteful because it requires extra labor and increases the drying time of hay, thereby increasing the danger from rain.

Results of Jackman's inquiries of farmers showed that efficiency in handling hay varied from 1 ton a man a day, where hay was shocked by hand, hauled on wagons, and forked into barns by hand, to 11 tons a man a day, where buck rakes and slide stackers were used. The estimated cost of moving hay from windrow to barn or stack ranged all the way from 60 cents to \$4 a ton.

The results of this farmer survey were sent to all county agents and cooperating farmers; the methods were tabulated and actual comments included. One comment, from John Porter of Long Creek, follows:

"Curly Lodge told me that the beaver slide stacker is the fastest way known to man to stack hay. He said that Sam Ross at

quitting time counts his stackers, and if they are not all there, tears down haystacks until he finds them; and up to date he hasn't lost a man, but he has had that outfit only the last few years."

Another comment, from Jack Proebstel, was that "all this talk and the methods devised for keeping what farm labor we have is Bologna in its purest form. If I were a hired hand and could get \$10 or \$12 a day in a defense industry, I wouldn't stay myself, and neither would you."

Robert Weir reported that if hay is yarded first, it has a chance to settle and the loads go up better. He has a derrick mounted on wheels which does not need taking down to be moved.

These are merely samples of the information sent out in April 1942, which certainly carried a down-to-earth flavor of practicality.

In May, just before hay season started, Jackman followed with a letter "to give some preliminary information on what I believe to be 'tops' in hay-making methods." This letter included a description of the Montana slide, or beaver slide stacker.

Figures supplied by Sam Ross, a Jordan Valley farmer, were quoted showing that he averaged 140 tons of hay put up a day with a five-man crew at a daily cash cost of only \$26.50. This amounted to just under 20 cents a ton for all cash expenses. If it came to a showdown, Ross said, two men could

pile up 100 tons of hay daily by this method. Although the hay would not be stacked in very neat piles, it would keep till feeding-out time.

Jackman also reported to the county agents that Earl Price of the agricultural engineering department had prepared a blueprint showing construction of this type of stacker and also that some models had been made. A few farmers were able to make these stackers in time for the 1942 haying season. This past winter the campaign was continued, the model stackers being taken to various livestock growers' and other farmers' meetings where blueprints were also available.

Jackman's conclusions, after his study of haying methods, are that for small or medium-sized ranches a jayhawk stacker is the best labor-saver. This is a combination buck rake and stacker. One man can operate it and can deliver hay onto a stack at either end or anywhere along either side. This permits a fairly large stack to be built by two men. For the large ranches, however, he is recommending the beaver or Montana slide stacker.

By means of his human-interest letters, his equally interesting radio programs, and news stories, Jackman has succeeded effectively in calling widespread attention to one possibility for solving the farm labor problem. Needless to say, his letters are welcomed in county agents' offices, where mail piles up in such quantities that much of the mimeographed material slides into the wastebasket without receiving much attention.

Seeds from Nebraska to Russia



Loading certified oats seed for shipment to Russia. Many Nebraskans contributed to the fund to buy seed for the valiant Russian farmers to plant this spring. Nebraskans were particularly interested because some of their best varieties of wheat originally came from Russia—such varieties as the Turkey Red and the Kharkov. More than \$120 was raised at the annual extension conference for the purpose as described in the March REVIEW.

Victory vitamins keep young Nevadans growing

■ "Making America strong by making Americans stronger" is an old story to folks in Nevada. For the last 20 years they have been working together on this idea in the "keep growing" nutrition program for school children. Local leaders, school staffs, parents, and children have cooperated with home demonstration agents in carrying on these nutrition demonstrations in their communities. As a result, nearly 52,000 children in 13 of Nevada's 17 counties have grown sturdier. Recently, 86 percent of the school children were found to be in good nutritional condition as compared to only 56 percent in 1922, when the Extension Service launched this health crusade.

More milk, fruit, and vegetables in the children's diet has been the main battle cry of the campaign, and there has been a marked increase in the consumption of these health foods through better use of local supplies. The importance of a good lunch for the growing child has also been emphasized—better-quality lunches at home and at school. Supervised lunch periods have been established in many schools. At first the home-prepared box lunches were supplemented by hot food brought in thermos bottles or food in individual pint jars reheated at school. Later, WPA assistance was obtained to provide an entire hot meal, in some cases supplemented by surplus commodities provided by the Surplus Marketing Administration. There was practically none of this activity when the keep-growing demonstrations were started.

Progress has also been made in supplying extra nourishment for the unusually slow-growing and easily fatigued children and for whole school groups where the local food supply is inadequate. This is another nutrition activity first sponsored by the keep-growing project and has flourished in later years with the assistance of the AMA. Last year, 29 communities carried on some type of supplemental feeding for school children. Fruit was made available by the AMA, and funds for additional food were provided by service clubs, parent-teacher associations, homemakers' clubs, or by local families who donated home-produced milk, fruit, and vegetables.

The Victory Garden campaign was especially emphasized in all the keep-growing communities during the past year. This made all participants more conscious of the Nation-wide effort to improve nutrition and health. There were one-third more gardens in the State than formerly. The biggest increase was on farms and ranches. However,

in many urban and suburban areas, vegetables were grown in back yards.

Children enrolled in keep-growing demonstrations also took an active part in the State-wide campaign for the use of enriched bread and flour. A little leaflet on the enrichment program, entitled "America Needs Health Citizens. Do Your Part—Eat Enriched Flour, Bread, and Cereals," was put out by the State Nutrition Council. This was placed in the hands of all local leaders and teachers and distributed by community organizations to homes. It was made the basis for class discussion, and methods were worked out for arousing home and community interest and cooperation.

Particularly important, under present war conditions, is the emphasis on the posture phase of the keep-growing program. School children have been urged to get more sleep and to avoid that "slump" so characteristic of the growing child in summer. Douglas County has done a splendid job of stimulating posture consciousness. Nearly all the school children there rated "good posture" on last year's health reports.

Freedom from physical defects also has an important bearing upon ability to gain and maintain good nutrition and good health. Last year the children in 24 of these keep-growing communities received physical inspections by doctors and nurses of the Public Health Service. They also received guidance in obtaining needed medical assistance. Each child was given an opportunity to be immunized against smallpox and diphtheria and to take the patch test for tuberculosis. Dental needs of the children were

taken care of if the family wished to have the work done.

Some type of classroom instruction in nutrition, posture, and health habits was given in 56 communities during the past year. Home and community interest in good nutrition was stimulated by nutrition-for-defense educational activities carried on by 51 keep-growing communities. These activities included exhibits, demonstrations, skits, and keep-growing achievement days. Twenty communities celebrated Child Health Day on or near the first of May. Nearly 3,500 persons were reached through these Nutrition-for-defense activities.

Washoe County had a particularly fine record in supplementary activities last year. All 16 schools had a supervised lunch period and served a hot food during cold weather. All the schools gave instruction in nutrition and health habits. Fifteen schools had supplementary feeding, and 13 had physical-inspection periods. Nine schools in this county have scales, and seven of them had regular weighing days.

Last year the usual health booklet contest was abandoned in order to cooperate with the State-wide nutrition poster contest sponsored by the State Nutrition Council. This contest was open to all school children of the State, and keep-growing demonstrators won their full share of the awards. All these posters created much interest, not only while they were being made, but during the time they were on exhibit in schools, store windows, and group meetings of various kinds.

The posters put out by the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services, Federal Security Agency, were placed on display in classrooms and did much to develop an understanding of the nutrition-for-defense campaign. There was a widespread feeling of satisfaction that the keep-growing nutrition standards so closely agreed with those set forth in the "national nutrition yardstick" which these posters illustrated.

Will war babies be healthy babies?

■ War brings many conditions and situations that might menace the health and well-being of children. Forward-looking mothers of Lee County, Ala., are arming themselves against these dangers by their activity in better-baby clubs. Any mother with young children is eligible to belong. The clubs, sponsored by the county health department and Extension Service, are all a part of Alabama's health program for rural mothers and children. Members of home demonstration clubs, parent-teacher associations, and missionary societies have been working together wholeheartedly to make the health project a success. They have been helping to raise money to establish a permanent clinic which can be enlarged to provide

all types of health service for the rural area.

A particularly enthusiastic group of mothers meets each month at the schoolhouse in Smith's Station, where health clinics are conducted and demonstrations given on child care. At one meeting the county health doctor and nurse examined 10 babies, 27 preschool children, and 6 young school children. About 40 women came to the club that day, and while they waited their turn in the clinic, they looked at an interesting display of clothes. On hand to explain the exhibit, showing the types of clothes mothers and babies should wear, was Home Agent Margaret Oliver, who has played such a big part in this health drive.

At an earlier meeting, the Lee County

mothers saw a demonstration on Canning the Baby's Budget, which gave the mothers many pointers on their children's diet and showed them how to can vegetable purées and juices for 1- and 2-year-olds. On another occasion, a pediatrician gave a talk and screened a sound movie on infant care. Another meeting featured a talk by Elta Majors, extension child care specialist, on developing the child's personality. Discussions were led by club leaders on Respect for Authority and Home Duties. A demonstration on making home-made toys was the high light of a later club meeting.

One of the greatest problems in getting the clubs organized was transportation for mothers who wanted to come to the club but

had no conveyance. Home demonstration women formed a transportation committee and arranged for this. Another problem, partly solved, is that a number of mothers work in the Phenix City and Columbus mills and do not get off from work until 4 or 4:30. The health doctor and nurses have been very cooperative in holding the clinic open late for these mothers. Sometimes neighbors have brought the children for examination when the mother could not come. Because many women could not attend the clinic and a club meeting held at different times, it was decided to emphasize the clinic, where a display and short demonstration for the women would be provided, and to hold the regular club meetings quarterly.

man of the county home food-supply committee, so that the enrolled family can be given all possible advice and help by trained agricultural workers. In most counties either the county agent or the home agent is chairman of the committee.

Enrollment in the home food-supply program takes place principally at county rallies and community meetings. Each family that enrolls is given a Tennessee Home Food Supply for Victory sticker, which is usually placed on a window of the home, or on the automobile windshield. The sticker identifies a progressive farm family participating in the program.

To create and sustain interest, the home food-supply program is conducted as a game in which all members of the family like to take part. At the time of enrollment, the family is supplied with a score card which provides a simple and convenient method of keeping a record of the food produced. It gives suggestions for a well-balanced diet, and shows the amounts of various foods needed by one person for a year. The food-production goal of the family is then obtained by multiplying the requirements for one person by the number of persons in the family. That goal is assigned a value of 1,000 points.

Throughout the year, each enrolled family keeps a record of the food produced and used. At the end of the season, these amounts are entered on the score card. The card is then turned in to the chairman of the county home food supply committee to be scored by a special judging committee.

The total possible score is 1,000 points. A score of 750 points indicates that the family has produced on the farm three-fourths of the food consumed, and a certificate of recognition is awarded.

Certificate of Recognition

Each certificate of recognition is signed by the Governor, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Director of the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Tennessee, the Director of Vocational Agricultural Education, and the State Director of the Farm Security Administration. The recipient's name is inscribed on the certificate, and a blue star is placed on it for each year the farm family has been successful in raising three-fourths of its food at home. The certificate is then placed in a handsome walnut frame, glassed, and wired on the back, ready to hang on the wall. Throughout the State, these certificates may be found in farm homes where they are pointed to with pride by the entire family.

The certificates are awarded by the Governor, the Commissioner of Agriculture, other State or Federal agricultural officials, or prominent local leaders. In many counties, the awards are made at harvest dinners, where everyone receives ample quantities of good home-cooked Tennessee food.

Tennessee enrolls 80 percent of farm families to grow three-fourths of their own food

■ With 2 years' experience in enrolling farm families in a State-wide home food-supply program, the Tennessee Extension Service started a drive early in 1942 to double the 1941 enrollment of 106,000.

The program was originated in 1940, by Governor Cooper in cooperation with the Extension Service and other agencies, as a peace-time plan to encourage farm families to produce 75 percent or more of the food needed by the family for a well-balanced, healthful diet. The objective was to help them to be more self-sufficient and better fed by producing the vegetables, fruits, milk, meat, eggs, and other foods needed for home consumption.

In 1940, 61,000 families were enrolled in the program; in 1941, 106,000; and in 1942, 201,504—80 percent of the farm families or one-third of the State's total population.

The plan for enrolling families in the program has been the same from the beginning, except for intensification.

When war was declared in December 1941, the practices involved in this program assumed a new and more far-reaching significance. By growing most of their own food supplies, farmers not only could help themselves, but could make a real contribution to the war effort by producing surpluses for sale as well or making foods they would otherwise buy for their own use available for feeding our soldiers and our allies.

Thus, with 2 years' experience in a peace-time program that had suddenly become of vital importance in the war program of the Nation, the Extension Service set out in 1942 to enroll at least 200,000 families.

From the beginning, the program has been directed by a State home food-supply committee,

composed of heads of the various State and National agencies and of farm organizations interested in rural welfare, working in cooperation with county committees. Each year the Governor has issued a proclamation designating a week during the early spring as Home Food Supply and Better-Nutrition Week. This week climaxes an intensive educational and enrollment campaign conducted by county farm and home agents and others and serves to focus State-wide attention of both farm families and the urban population on the importance of home-produced foods from both an economic and a health standpoint. In 1942, the war need added impetus to the program.

Newspaper publicity, radio programs, motion pictures, slides, charts, posters, circular letters, and leaflets have had an important place in the enrollment campaign as well as a sustaining interest and providing helpful production information throughout the year. Civic and educational organizations, chain and independent food stores, and other interested groups have been of great assistance.

The program is carried to farm families at winter and spring rallies, community meetings, and county program-planning meetings and, individually, by garden and poultry home demonstration club leaders.

All farmers, white and Negro—farm owners, tenants, sharecroppers—are eligible to take part. It costs them nothing. The only requirement is that the head of the farm family sign a simple enrollment card pledging the best efforts of the family to raise three-fourths of its food and agreeing to keep a record of what is produced. This card is kept on file in the office of the chair-

Manpower and foodpower in Britain

Francis Flood—world traveler and former midwestern farm editor, who was employed for several years by the United States Department of Agriculture, and is now with the British Supply Council—recently gave the following description of British agriculture under wartime conditions.

■ Can farmers, United States or British, in the face of labor shortage and other difficulties, keep farm production at the present high levels? If so, how? In the United States the question is to be answered in 1943. In Britain the answer is already on the record of four wartime harvests.

In the United States, the urge to greater farm production is the knowledge that food will help to win the war. United States farmers plant for victory; British farmers plant for life or death.

Britain is only about the size of Iowa and Indiana, but has 47 million people to feed, a third the population of the whole United States. Pre-war Britain imported almost two-thirds of her food supply. A little more than one-third of her ships were needed to bring in that food. Then came the war. Most of Britain's nearby sources of imported food were lost to the Axis, and her ships were either sunk or needed to carry munitions of war and soldiers throughout the Empire, for patrol work, and moved in slow convoys.

Britain met these problems in three ways: (1) by increase of home production; (2) by rigidly rationing food so that it would serve to its maximum; (3) by getting food from other parts of the world, wherever shipping would permit, including lend-lease food from United States.

Britain's total plowed acreage has increased by 50 percent since 1939. Yields have also increased under pressure from the County Committees who exercise rigid wartime controls.

By 1941 it was apparent the limit had been reached. In the face of labor shortage and other obstacles it was even doubtful if the level could be maintained. The problem in 1941 was much like that of the United States now. Could the peak be maintained? The answer in 1942 was a substantial increase. And the goals for 1943 call for a still further increase.

Britain now produces nearly two-thirds of its present reduced food supply, as compared to little more than one-third pre-war.

This has not been an uncontrolled general increase, coaxed from farmers by higher prices. It has been a planned adjustment, under the strict control of the Ministry of Agriculture and the County War Committees. Oats production increased by 75 percent, potatoes 71 percent, total grain crops 62 percent, and vegetables 50 percent. While the number of beef cattle, sheep, pigs, and poultry has been reduced, dairy production has increased in spite of labor shortage.

Since the dairy cow furnishes more food per acre or per ton of feedstuffs than do meat animals, dairying has been increased at the expense of meat production.

This bigger farmed acreage is in spite of the loss of thousands of acres of good farm land taken by the Army and R. A. F. for the hundreds of airfields and army camps scattered all over England. Now more airfields are being built for reverse lend-lease bases for the United States.

New Land

Besides plowing up arable pastures, Britain reclaimed much new land that had never been farmed before, including scrub, moors, steep hillsides, and rough land. For example, in the winter of 1940-41, at the height of the Battle of Britain, when one of every five homes in all Britain was being destroyed or damaged, over 150,000 acres of completely waste marshland were drained and reclaimed and are now in production. Big estates, golf courses, parks, gardens, and similar areas in Britain have been put under the plow. Many fields are plowed now for the first time in a hundred years. Today there is no idle acre in Britain.

Yields per acre have been stepped up, and farming in Britain now under the strict control of the County War Committees, is at its most productive level. The national average wheat yield in England is 36 bushels per acre, twice that of the United States.

Wartime Farming Difficulties

Kent County, England (The White Cliffs of Dover County), is an example of England's wartime farming in the face of difficulties. There on the Chalk Cliffs the English farm under direct shellfire from the big guns in France.

There, as throughout England, every level field of a few acres or larger is studded with wooden poles stuck in the ground at intervals of a few rods to prevent invading planes from landing. These must be farmed around. Tank traps and home guard trenches are slashed right across the fields to be farmed around—adding labor. Grain stacks must be scattered, instead of bunched for efficient threshing, to avoid incendiary bombs. Cows must be penned at night in scattered barns and corrals to guard against the herd being wiped out by bombs. All this means more work—in the face of labor shortage. On farms near R. A. F. fields, farmers found it almost impossible to use

horses because of the frequent air battles at low levels during the Battle of Britain.

One would, of course, expect Kent County's production to fall off under such conditions—but the figures show that Kent County's 166,000 acres under the plow in 1939 had increased to 260,000 acres in 1942.

Other handicaps include a farm labor shortage much more acute than in the United States, a farm machinery shortage much more acute than in the United States, and the black-outs, which of course, exist on every farm. Every farmhouse and every barn and corral and shed are completely black all night and every night. This is a very real handicap to production.

Farm Labor

The farm labor problem has been partly met by the use of the Women's Land Army. This consists of girls who have enlisted for the duration, to serve as "hired men," just as other English women have enlisted in the various armed services. These are recruited from the cities, since farm girls are frozen on the land anyway. In many cases women do all the work on large dairy farms. At present there are over 50,000 of these regularly enlisted Land Army girls who work a minimum of 48 hours a week for small pay and under regular official discipline. Today these girls, chiefly from the cities, are one of the actual mainstays of English farming.

Another substitute for labor is greater use of tractors. To buy a new tractor a farmer must share the use of it with his neighbors, under strict supervision of the County Committee. The County Committee itself owns tractors and machinery and does custom work with Land Army girls and other labor for farmers at cost. In one county, Northumberland, the County Committee owns and operates 500 tractors. No machine is idle. They are tractor farming at night under dim-out lighting conditions.

Old people who had quit farming years ago now do full-time or part-time heavy farm work and stand their regular fire watching, plane spotting and home guard watches besides. Elderly people, formerly retired, are a large part of the farm labor in Britain today.

Food Rationing

In England food has been carefully rationed for 3 years. This prevents waste. It makes the food serve its maximum usefulness. United States farmers will be glad to know that the food they raise which goes to England serves to its maximum, because of rationing. Rationing has saved the day in England.

Lend-Lease Food in England

Lend-lease food from United States now furnishes something under 10 percent of England's total food supply, and something under 25 percent of her total protein food supply.

United States farmers will be interested to know that food in England produces more planes, tanks, and guns and other munitions of war per ton than it does in the United States. England, with one-third of the United States population, produces far more planes and tanks and guns than the United States per capita—until last summer actually more in total each month. With the United States producing these war materials at such an amazingly high rate this means that England's 47,000,000 population is producing very efficiently, on a very limited food supply.

United States farmers will also be glad to know that of all this production of planes and tanks and guns by England, most of it is exported from England to foreign United Nations fronts—which are United States fronts. When building up for the African campaign, for instance, 80 percent of all of Britain's munitions production was exported from Britain.

Thus lend-lease food to England contributes to the making of planes, tanks, and guns just as does food to Detroit—more so if one considers the fact that England produces on the minimum dietary level, while the United States is on a very high dietary level, very near an all-time peak level, the best fed of all the United Nations.

United States farmers who have increased food production and who plan further increases for 1943, or the American housewife who watches her family's diet more carefully, will be glad to know that extra food thus made available for lend-lease supplies to England contributes so directly, and without waste, to the production of planes, tanks, and guns for the United Nations' effort.

Taxation

Income taxes are incomparably higher in Britain than in the United States and have been for some time, even than the new United States income tax level.

The standard income tax rate is 50 percent. For a single man the income tax begins at \$440 a year. For a married man at \$624.

Manpower

Of the 33 million people in Britain between the ages of 14 and 65 there are 23½ million working full time in industry or the armed forces. Another 2 million are working part time. This rate for the United States would mean about 65 million, which is the figure suggested by the President as the total manpower of the United States to be mobilized.

In Britain, 67½ percent of the girls between the ages of 14 and 17, and 77 percent of the boys are now engaged in war work. About 8 million women have been mustered into industry in Britain, of which 2½ million did not work in peacetime. About 13 percent of Britain's steel workers are women and nearly 50 percent of Britain's aircraft workers are women.

There are about 250 thousand women in Britain's armed services, purely military organizations, with over 13 thousand of them actually under fire alongside the men in the anti-aircraft batteries.

Britain's War Effort

About two-thirds of Britain's national income goes directly to the war effort, the rest to meet civilian needs—which come last. (This compares to something under one-half of the United States national income currently devoted to the war effort.)

Normally the people of Britain spend about one-fifth of their income on their Government and four-fifths on themselves. Today they spend about three-fifths to fight the war and about two-fifths on themselves.

One home out of every five in all England has been damaged or destroyed by bombs—more than 2½ million homes. These are constant reminders scattered throughout England that the war effort comes first.

programs of cooperative buying, Mr. Bowles says that the movement is little more than getting under way. Accordingly, no estimates can be made of the total volume which will be bought, or the savings likely to be made to farmer-buyers. He estimates, however, that about 100 counties will take part in this direct buying program.

Meanwhile, reports show that Erath County farmers have bought 31 carloads, and farmers of Lee County more than 1½ million pounds of grain. An estimated saving of \$15,000 resulted to Erath County purchasers and approximately \$7,000 to those in Lee County. This feed is being used largely for production of essential food, meat, milk, and eggs, and the savings through cooperative buying have enabled farmers to purchase war bonds.

The source of the grain is in the south plains and western tier of counties. Reports from county agricultural agents show that Castro County has 1 million bushels of threshed grain available; Cochran, 20 carloads; Dawson, 10,000 tons; Floyd, 750 tons; Hale, 1 million bushels; Lamb, several hundred carloads; Lubbock, 35,000 tons; Lynn, 500 carloads, and so on.

In addition to purchases for Erath and Lee Counties, J. O. Moosberg, county agricultural agent, reports receipt of one 83,000-pound carload of threshed maize by Shelby County farmers, and B. F. Gray, county agricultural agent, reports delivery of two carloads of bulk threshed maize in Van Zandt County, and a third ordered. The estimated saving to the farmer-buyers was \$500 a carload. Also reported were cooperative purchases of 1,200 sacks of milo by 24 members of the Burton Farm Bureau, Washington County, which involved a saving of \$360.

Farm fair of the air

Because of the rubber shortage and transportation difficulties, Adair County, Okla., had no State fair last year. Instead, a farm fair of the air was broadcast over Station KVOO. Representative farm women told how they were replacing men in farm work. One woman has a "pet milk" route and collects whole milk from the farmers. Another woman produces strawberries, blackberries, boysenberries, apples, dairy products, and poultry. Another farm homemaker is increasing her poultry and egg production as her contribution to victory.

An exhibit of agricultural and homemaking products was displayed in a downtown store window. The Zion Home Demonstration Club set up their exhibit of a 1-week canning budget for a family of 5. Various home-produced canned products were displayed, also rugs and 15 kinds of articles made from sacks, such as housecoats, pot holders, bath mats, comfort protectors, pillows, quilts, pillowcases, dresses, shorts, pajamas, bonnets, luncheon cloths, tea towels, and baby linen.

Feed goes from surplus to deficit areas

■ Pooling of orders and cooperative buying directly from areas having large surpluses of feed are saving money for many Texas livestock men. C. E. Bowles, organization and cooperative marketing specialist for the Texas A. and M. College Extension Service, says reports from county agricultural agents indicate that farmers can save about \$500 a carload by assembling orders and doing their own buying.

The movement is an outgrowth of feed-crop shortage in some sections of the State and an overwhelming abundance in others. Farmers in central and east Texas, for example, made a short crop. The success of the Victory program for increased production of meat and other essential protein foods was

threatened for lack of feed. Prices for feed bought through dealers left little or no margin for the feeder.

On the other hand, many west Texas counties made and gathered one of the largest grain-sorghum crops in their history. Again, supply and demand controlled the situation, but adversely for the growers. Prices for this grain on the farms were barely enough to pay production costs.

To bring producers and feeders together, a survey was made to locate supplies, establish points of contact, and arrive at approximate prices. The results of the survey were made available to county agricultural agents in the counties that were short of feed. Although a number of counties have started

Orchard spray rigs are efficient fire fighters in Michigan

■ War has called attention to the importance of rural fires. In Michigan the initial demand for civilian protection from incendiary bombs has led to adoption of the State's thousands of fruit and vegetable spray rigs as potential fire fighters.

Rural fire prevention campaigns were Nation-wide a year ago. The Extension Service agricultural engineers at Michigan State College cooperated with county agricultural agents in setting up organizations in every county in the State. As in other States, schools distributed individual farm check sheets, and fire hazards were found and corrected throughout Michigan. Farms cannot be sacrificed to fire, even accidentally, when the production from every farm is necessary in total food production.

More than 20,000 spray rigs do duty in Michigan in protecting orchards, potato acreages, and other vegetable and fruit production from insect and disease damage. Why not, reasoned the college specialists, make potential fire fighters out of these spray rigs?

Two counties became so enthused that they set up county-wide service. The spray rigs which they purchased are specially mounted on trucks and do service only in fighting fires. Kent County and Alcona County have such permanent organizations and equipment to serve communities.

Other counties are interested, according to George Amundson, Michigan extension specialist in agricultural engineering. Now, however, the spray rig, or fog fire fighter, is in such demand by military forces for fire fighting that no more rural equipment is available until after the war. In the meantime, however, increased interest is being focused on how the standard spray rigs can be kept ready for rural fire fighting.

One problem is that of winter readiness. Calcium chloride in solution keeps water from freezing, but the solution should not be stored in the metal spray tank. A supply of the solution can be kept in convenient auxiliary concrete or wooden tanks or barrels and dumped, dipped, or pumped into the sprayer tank when needed for fire fighting. The spray rig is cleaned after using the calcium chloride solution as it is after using spray solutions.

Secret of the spray rig is the production of fog. At 600-pounds pressure the water coming from a nozzle is broken up into tiny mist particles. Hot fires in demonstrations and actual fire fighting have been brought under control in 30 to 60 seconds with the use of as little as 20 to 30 gallons of water, broken into this fine spray or fog.

Mr. Amundson says that in spray form 20 gallons of water can absorb as much as 183,



This demonstration of fighting fire with the orchard spray rig is typical of those given in Michigan.

720 British thermal units. The 20 gallons of spray falling effectively on the fire will absorb in one minute the heat from burning 13 pounds of coal. That, in 10 hours, would be the equivalent of burning a winter's supply of six tons of coal or 15 short cords of hardwood—in other words a hot fire.

More education and demonstrations are planned by the Michigan Extension Service for this year. Rural fire-prevention organizations, county by county, consist of the local conservation officer as chairman, a member of the county defense council, and the county agricultural agent.

Check that cold

To forestall loss of man-days due to colds in wartime's labor shortage, California home demonstration agents have been carrying on a State-wide health project which they call Building Resistance to Colds Through Food and Other Health Habits. They have made use of the radio and newspapers in getting information to California people on how to reduce the number and severity of colds by proper diets.

The extension workers have worked out exhibits on buoyant health, food for convalescents, sickroom equipment, and games for the sick. Two circulars were prepared by California nutrition specialists to be used throughout the drive. The one on colds was approved by University of California medical authorities.

The programs of community meetings held throughout California have covered such subjects as: Signs of buoyant health; charts showing illnesses in the county with their causes; signs of common communicable diseases and how to check their spread in a community; reducing the time of convalescence through food; a movie on colds; a discussion between parent-teacher association and school representatives on problems the school and home face in maintaining health, particularly with respect to colds; a guide to building resistance to colds through food and other health drives; and personal and community responsibility in improving civilian food and health habits during the war.

Up to date, some 1,600 families, in 16 counties have been assisted in the prevention of colds and other common illnesses. Nearly 1,400 families in 27 counties have been helped in correcting their diets and in weight control.

"Victory Gardens help pay taxes, furnish food, beat the Axis"

This was the winning couplet of the extension Victory Garden slogan contest in Fulton County, Ind. Aimed at a Victory Garden on every farm, the contest was open to all people of the county, young and old. In all, 222 entries were submitted to the county extension office. The slogans were prepared by individuals, clubs, and even entire families, some of them sending in as many as 18 slogans. Five entries came from Fulton County folk who were wintering in Florida and saw the announcement of the contest in the home newspaper.

Wide publicity was given through the newspapers and circular letters. The slogans of 10 words or less were judged by a committee composed of the county superintendent of schools, a public-library representative, and three other local residents. More than a dozen merchandise prizes, donated by county merchants, were awarded at the garden school. The four "next best" slogans in order of their placings were:

The garden you grow helps beat the foe.

Victory Gardens raised with care
Will help bring Victory everywhere.

Victory Gardens, why, what for?
Raise food, win the war.

Victory Gardens, you and I
Keep Old Glory waving high.

■ Following the Government's request that hogs be fed to heavier weights, Kentucky farmers who are competing in the ton-litter contest reported 19 litters that went to market at an average weight of 2,238 pounds.

A helping hand at mess heartens boys at an Army base

HELEN SUCHY, Home Demonstration Agent, Dodge County, Nebr.

"Certainly this has been an outstanding example of the kind of practical cooperation that can be given the military by civilian organizations. Nebraska has many air bases. For their benefit I hope you have as many Helen Suchys," writes Maj. A. J. Guffanti, commanding officer of the base where Helen Suchy did the work described in this article.

■ "Though the sun shines hot in summer, and the cold winter wind may blow, it's always fair weather in Nebraska, where real folks grow." Those words of our State song, My Nebraska, will linger long in the memory of the boys at the Army Air Base in Dodge County at Scribner, Nebr.

Arriving at the camp in the dead of winter, on the heels of a young blizzard, most of the men felt that a mistake had been made in their shipping orders, and that surely they were in Alaska, certainly not Nebraska. This same land that looked so much like barren waste land in winter, produces as beautiful fields of grain as can be found anywhere in the world. To the boys far away from home in strange surroundings, however, nothing about the camp seemed beautiful or inviting.

The men at the air base had one break though, that was in having as their commanding officer, Maj. A. J. Guffanti. In the Air Corps lingo of the men at the base, "The Major is right on the beam!"

Immediately, Major Guffanti began to make contact with local civic groups. He found that though the weather could be bitterly cold, the warm welcome given to him and his men more than compensated for the weather.

It was at Major Guffanti's first meeting with the board of directors of the Fremont Chamber of Commerce that the Dodge County Extension Service entered the picture. Walter E. White, county agricultural agent, attended the meeting, and listened to the situation as described by Major Guffanti. The proper feeding of the men was one of the problems. Because the Army has expanded so quickly, and because the average age of the men was low, it was quite natural that those who were assigned as cooks were not fully trained to the point where they had the required knowledge of the proper preparation of food.

Some help was needed in meal planning and preparation. The men in the kitchen were willing, but lacked understanding of the underlying principles of food preparation and selection. The food supply was of the very best quality, and in sufficient quantity. County Agent White suggested that perhaps

the home demonstration agent could be of some help in solving the problem, and that is where I came into the picture. Two days later, I met with Major Guffanti, and agreed to visit the base twice a week, to help the cooks with their meal-planning and cooking problems. Miracles aren't happening, but slowly and surely the problems are beginning to disappear. The men are willing and anxious to take suggestions, and they realize that they have much to learn.

All this happened in early December, the Christmas season was approaching, and with it the traditional Christmas dinner. The thought occurred to us, Why not have some of the Dodge County mothers and sisters who have sons and brothers somewhere in the

armed forces prepare and serve Christmas dinner to these boys away from home. The plan had the approval of Major Guffanti. Not one woman that was asked to help refused, even though it meant devoting most of her Christmas day to the preparation and serving of the dinner. Fifteen women helped with the dinner.

Candy, nuts, fruit, and cigarettes for the occasion were provided by groups from Hooper, Scribner, and Fremont. In Scribner nearly every homemaker scrimped on the sugar for her own family in order to bake a batch of cookies for the boys. Napkins were made by the pupils of Fremont Junior High School, and schools of District No. 5 in Sarpy County provided nut cups. The dinner was a 100 percent success and the men at the base, as well as the women, had a very Merry Christmas as a result.

Many Army bases, such as the one at Scribner, are scattered throughout our land. Certainly other home demonstration agents would be glad and willing to serve. Every home agent, who is stationed in a county in which a base is located, should make contact with the commanding officer and offer her services. She will find the majority will welcome her with open arms. It's another way of serving on the home front in a field in which we are already trained. No glamour, but a feeling of satisfaction in doing a job that needed to be done right in your own back yard.

Homemakers adopt pledge

■ The Arkansas homemaker's pledge was developed by the citizenship committee of the Arkansas Home Demonstration Council and is being used as a basis for discussion in many clubs of the council. The citizenship chairman in each club obtains signatures to the pledge and leaves a copy for the homemaker to hang on her own wall. The pledge reads:

MY PLEDGE

AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN AND AN ARKANSAS HOMEMAKER

I will accept the following responsibilities proudly and without fear, as we all work together for Victory.

I AM RESOLVED:

TO SUPPORT MY GOVERNMENT in its war efforts, maintaining an everlasting faith in the rightness of our cause, and in our ultimate success.

TO COMBAT DISUNITY by refusing to spread rumors and by working harmoniously with others, placing national success in the war effort above personal comforts and desires.

TO MAINTAIN FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MORALE through a cheerful attitude and an active interest in family and community growth and improvement.

TO COMBAT INFLATION by full cooperation in my Government's efforts to maintain price ceilings. I will buy carefully, cut waste, spend less, and save more.

TO BACK OUR MEN on the battle fronts by turning in all scrap, and by buying war stamps and bonds.

TO COMBAT WASTE through careful salvaging of all usable materials in my home, through production and conservation of foodstuffs, and through care of, and a sharing of, equipment and transportation.

TO COMBAT DISCOURAGEMENT by being cheerful in the face of difficulties, discomforts, and sufferings.

TO KEEP MYSELF AND MY FAMILY FIT by eating nutritious meals, using insofar as possible those foods not needed by our armies or our allies, and by budgeting my work so that I may have adequate time for relaxation, and some time for companionship and for maintaining spiritual ideals.

TO LOOK UPON ALL NECESSARY WAR WORK with a pride that will give it the dignity and distinction it deserves.

Cranberry duster adapted to strawberries

From the power dusters of the cranberry bogs of Cape Cod, the use of power dusting for insect control has come to the rescue of the growers of another crop—strawberries. Adapted cranberry dusters have been used seemingly with great success on Cape Cod strawberry beds, and this is probably the only strawberry-growing area in the country that is using this kind of machine in the control of the strawberry insects or diseases.

Last season 13 of these machines were used in the town of Falmouth, famous for its strawberry production. Excellent control of strawberry weevil was obtained for the first time. Many growers who had not obtained a full crop in years had a good one last year.

This development came about through the idea of Bertram Tomlinson, Barnstable County agricultural agent, who has the troubles of cranberry growers, strawberry growers, and all other Cape agriculturists on his shoulders.

As "Bert" Tomlinson recalls, the beginning of these experiments, which have led to the utilization of a piece of cranberry apparatus for the benefit of another crop, took place on a Saturday back in May 1939, when he first consulted the manufacturer about the possibility of building such a machine. The first demonstration of power dusting on a Cape strawberry bed was given at East Falmouth, May 23.

For demonstration purposes at this time, Mr. Tomlinson was following out the recommendations of the entomologist who supplied him with the type of dust he was experimenting with and gave him directions to apply it

with a hand crank duster, applying it at the rate of 16 to 18 pounds per acre.

"I borrowed a machine of this type and proceeded to attempt to carry out instructions," says Mr. Tomlinson. "After dusting one or two rows and having worked up a good sweat, I was saved from further punishment by weather conditions, and I was glad of the relief.

"On the way home, I pondered this matter and came to the conclusion that anybody who would recommend a hand-type duster for strawberry growers or anyone else to treat an insect like the strawberry weevil, was dealing in theory rather than experience.

"It's a man-killing job, and I could well understand how growers reported to me that they had such machinery but that they would let the weevils eat up the strawberries rather than kill themselves cranking a machine. It was then that I got the idea of adapting a cranberry duster to treating strawberries.

"I talked to the manufacturer on that Saturday in May and told him I wanted the machine for demonstration purposes the following Monday. He looked at me as though he thought I was crazy to expect instant service at such a busy time for him but agreed that, seeing it was I, he would see what he could do. Luck was with him, for the following Monday it rained, so he had one more day; and Tuesday, May 23, he was there on the job in Falmouth with a machine ready for a demonstration.

"We had a few growers out, and the machine did a wonderful job. The idea sold

itself at once to the growers, but they did not usually invest much money in farm machinery, and they halted at the idea of paying what they considered such a high price for one machine which would be used only 2 days in each year. Well, that was the beginning of an idea that finally took root with such good results.

"But, before purchasing, you may be sure, the growers had closely observed the work of the first machine that had gone into Falmouth. One was sold in 1941. Last year 11 were sold in Falmouth to the strawberry growers, most of them being owned on shares. The number of share owners to a machine varies from 2 to 5 growers."

This brought the total of cranberry power dusters adapted as strawberry dusters in use to 13, and they will be used to capacity this year. It is estimated that perhaps 200 acres were dusted during the past season. At least 8 tons of arsenate of lead sulfur dust (85-15) was used with excellent results. It was the first season that Mr. Tomlinson can remember when not a single grower made any complaints about weevil injury.

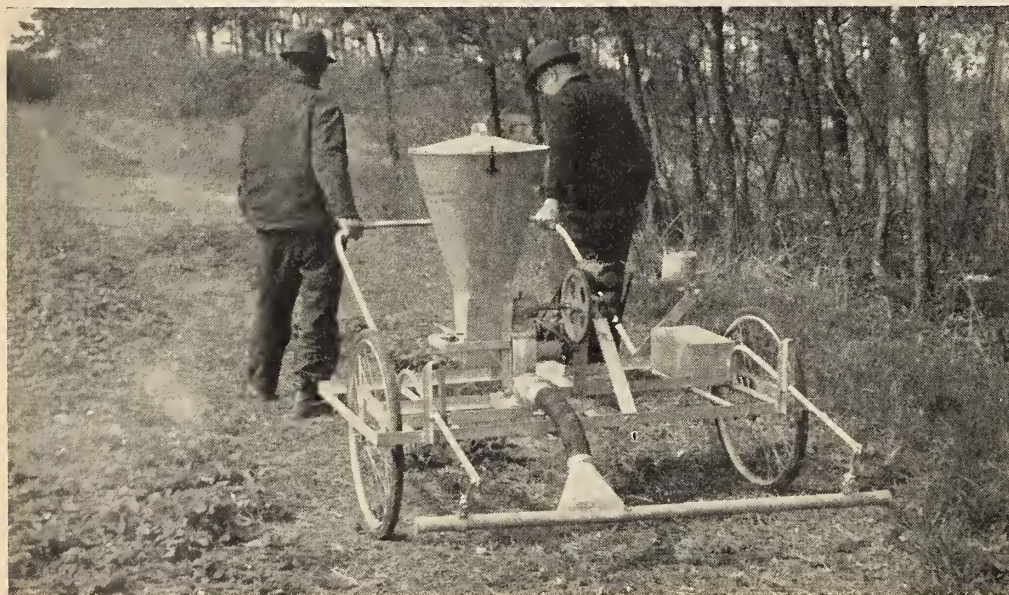
Cranberries were growing wild on Cape Cod when the first settlers came to the region. Now the benefits of cultural methods of the growers of the cranberry crop have been applied to the good advantage of another native American crop—the strawberry.

U. S. D. A. Victory dress revue

Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Wickard enjoyed the Victory dress revue on February 10 and marveled at the ingenious methods of war-time saving as shown by models who had made over old garments into new ones, thus saving money to buy war bonds. The revue was sponsored by the Garment Repair Clinic of the Department of Agriculture, over which Mrs. M. L. Wilson presides. Wives of Department officials meet in the patio of Agriculture's Administration Building every afternoon to learn how to patch and make over garments. The dress revue showed that the women had actually put their new skills to practice.

Ethel Regan, home demonstration agent in Prince Georges County, Md., modeled a modish suit made from a man's discarded suit. She brought with her two members of a home demonstration club who wore suits made from left-overs and old garments. Adeline Hoffman, home demonstration agent in Carroll County, Md., also wore a remodeled suit on which she had done a skillful job of "face lifting," as she expressed it.

Home demonstration club achievements are featured in the November 5 issue of "This Month in Rural Alabama," the illustrated 8-page feature edited by the extension staff and distributed through weekly newspapers.



Maryland quality egg program follows eggs from nest to table

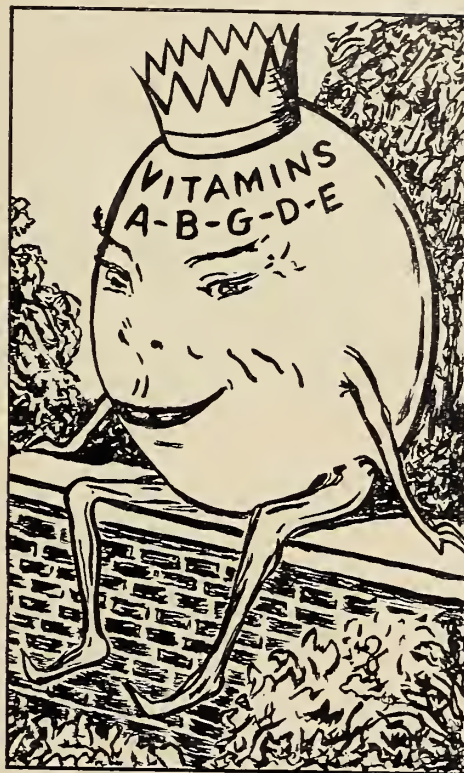
■ Two eggs for breakfast was one of the things that impressed Winston Churchill when visiting the United States. This privilege of egg abundance which Americans are apt to take for granted is cleverly set forth in literature put out by the Maryland Extension Service in a State-wide "egg quality program." Inserted in each carton of a dozen eggs is one of these egg leaflets with the reminder, "Mrs. Housewife, you have just enjoyed the privilege of purchasing a dozen eggs."

Cooperating in Maryland's quality egg program are various organizations of the Maryland poultry industry including wholesale egg dealers, retail merchants, and consumer-service organizations. All are working together for greater production, merchandising, and consumption of more fresh Maryland eggs as a direct contribution to victory.

To start this extension program, two large meetings, extensively publicized, were held. Producers, wholesale and retail distributors, and consumer-leaders conferred and approved the program. Special circulars announcing the quality-egg program have been widely distributed by mail through retail stores and various meetings. These extension circulars emphasize the important role the egg is playing on the home front as a nourishing victory food, and as No. 1 meat substitute in America's share-the-meat program. Egg recipes are also included in some of the literature.

On January 5, at the meeting of the Baltimore Independent Retail Grocers' Association with more than 600 grocers attending, the program was outlined by Dr. F. B. Bomberger, coordinator of marketing of the University of Maryland, who, together with W. H. Rice, Maryland extension poultry specialist, is in charge of the program. Differences between fresh and nonfresh eggs were demonstrated by Mr. Rice with broken eggs and candling. Homer I. Huntington of the Poultry and Egg National Board of Chicago pointed out important features of the Nation-wide program for better utilization of fresh eggs and poultry meat in wartime food programs.

On January 6, at Goucher College, Baltimore, a special meeting for leaders and officers of consumer groups was held. Representatives of the Red Cross Nutrition Program, consumer-center officials, housewives' leagues, city and county high-school home-economics teachers, county home demonstration agents, home-service and radio specialists, and others attended. At this meeting, point rationing for consumers was discussed by Dr. Elinor Pancoast of OPA, Washington, D. C.; The Maryland Quality Egg Program, by Dr. F. B. Bomberger; What Makes a Fresh Egg Fresh,



Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall
Filled with vitamins good for all.

This cartoon on the cover of the consumer leaflet was popular with Maryland housewives.

by W. H. Rice; and Fresh Eggs—No. 11 on the Government's List of War Essentials, by Homer I. Huntington. Mary Holloway, home-service specialist of a gas and electric company, demonstrated and discussed Fresh Eggs in the Share the Meat Program.

Nature's Defense Package, a sound technicolor film on eggs and their uses, produced by the Poultry and Egg National Board of Chicago, was shown.

Following these meetings, local group meetings of various consumer interests such as adult nutrition classes of home-economics high-school teachers, associations of college women, consumer centers, and housewives' leagues have requested cooperation in staging similar meetings for their membership.

Women attending these meetings not only have obtained a full appreciation of the distinction between fresh and nonfresh eggs, but have gained effective knowledge and a resolve to utilize eggs in an improved family nutrition program in which the share-the-meat program is a dominant feature.

Meetings for producer groups are also being held in which increased egg and poultry production goals and the seven-point Maryland "produce quality eggs" are outlined. The Maryland State Poultry Council, local associations, and county agricultural and home demonstration agents sponsor these meetings with producer groups.

Thus, through the coordination of producer, wholesaler, retailer, and consumer interests and efforts, the Maryland Quality Egg Program follows the eggs from the nest to the table. Reaction by all interests to this program is excellent, and all groups are cooperating to keep Maryland tables supplied with fresh eggs to help share the meat with our fighting boys and allies.

4-H "Big Sisters" guide younger members in war jobs

A "big sister" plan is working wonders with the Boynton community 4-H Club in Catoosa County, Ga., reports Home Agent Miriam Camp. The big sisters, or older 4-H girls, are responsible for helping the first- and second-year clubsters. Six older club girls signed their names in one column on a sheet of paper; and the little sisters wrote their names opposite their chosen big sisters.

The first item on the schedule of the big sisters, according to the home agent, was to show the first- and second-year girls how to finish their clothing projects in time for dress revue. As a result, the Boynton girls walked off with six honors in the county competition.

The collection of scrap rubber was just as urgent, so the little sisters set to work under the direction of the older 4-H girls. Accomplishments of the club, to date, show 8,500 pounds of scrap metal collected and sold, 3,347 pounds of rubber collected and sold, \$880 worth of war bonds and stamps bought, and 6,563 jars of food canned.

Have you read?

Insect Invaders. A report on a war which we wage in our back yards and on our frontiers—a war without quarter and one which we can lose. 228 pp. Anthony Standen. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 1943.

Insect Invaders is very interesting and well written. It portrays vividly the place of insects in man's struggle for existence. The information contained in this book would be helpful to county agents and should provide useful reading for 4-H Club members and other people whose vocations bring them into close contact with friends or enemies of the insect world. There are other textbooks which would be more helpful to county agents in giving life histories, habits, and control measures for specific insects.—M. P. Jones, extension entomologist, United States Department of Agriculture.

North Carolina home economics workers mobilize for action

■ North Carolina people are aiming this year to break all records in answering the Nation's call to produce and conserve more of those foods which tend to build and improve the health of the individual citizen and soldier.

Every home demonstration agent in the State assists in carrying information on food production, nutrition, food preparation, and preservation to every farm family. Agents will do this in various ways:

(1) Through monthly home demonstration club meetings organized in almost every township in 95 counties;

(2) Through 9,519 women neighborhood leaders and 19,266 home demonstration leaders. Neighborhood leaders will work closely with families in their communities in all programs relating to the war effort.

(3) Through 14 training schools for home demonstration agents and other home economics workers.

Through mobilized effort, home demonstration workers, Farm Security home supervisors, vocational home economics supervisors and teachers, and college foods teachers plan to reach thousands of city and farm homemakers with information on food conservation.

Nutrition work is coordinated under the State Nutrition Committee of Civilian Defense. To start the plan off, a 2-day food conservation workshop was held in Raleigh during the first week of March for professionally trained workers. Mrs. Cornelia C. Morris, extension economist in food conservation and marketing, and her assistant, Ruby Scholz, conducted the workshop.

Attending this food conservation workshop and refresher course were the entire State

home demonstration staff of district agents and specialists, the entire State staff of Farm Security workers, and district home supervisors; supervisors of home economics education, and teachers from the home economics departments of the following colleges: Women's College of the University of North Carolina, East Carolina Teachers College, Catawba College, Elon College, Asheville College, Salem College, Greensboro College, High Point College, Queens-Chicora College, Flora MacDonald College, Meredith College, and Appalachian College.

These trained workers in turn will hold 2-day training schools in the 100 counties in the State. The first day the school will be for home economics teachers, Farm Security home supervisors, home demonstration agents, and trained home economics workers who are working in other fields. These leaders will train home demonstration club women, women neighborhood leaders, and 4-H Club girls. The second day a school for Civilian Defense zone leaders will be held. These leaders in turn will assist and train block leaders.

The college teachers will see that all girls enrolled in home economics get all necessary information on canning fruits and vegetables before the school term closes. High school home economics teachers will give the same type training to high school girls enrolled in home economics.

Never before in North Carolina has such a unified conservation program been sponsored by home economics trained workers. The machinery is so set up as to reach every family in town, village, and rural district in the State with approved, safe, and successful methods of canning fruits and vegetables.

the homemakers' clubs for farm women.

They spoke of Ward County's difficulties during the drought years, of dust storms that for days darkened the skies, and of the grasshoppers which destroyed grainfields in 1 day. On the brighter side, they referred to Ward County's crops in 1941 and 1942—the largest on record.

When W. A. Peck, a representative of the Better Farming Association, and the "better farming agents" arrived in Ward County early in 1913 driving a model T car, real-estate agents were extolling the virtues of the prairies to newcomers. "That car," John Kassins, pioneer North Dakota farmer who helped Peck to get acquainted in the county, recalls, "was such a curiosity among the farmers that we had no trouble in attracting a crowd wherever we stopped."

Nearly a year before the Smith-Lever Act inaugurated a Nation-wide program of county agent work, Ward County had levied a quarter-mill tax to finance county agent work. For several months before the county had voted to provide for the county agent's support from public funds, the work had been financed by private subscription obtained by the Better Farming Association. Banking institutions, railroads, civic organizations, and others contributed to this work.

With the passing of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914, Federal funds for extension work became available, and Peck continued as county agent. He resigned in 1919 and is now a regional manager for the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board at South St. Paul. Those Ward County agents later went on to other agricultural work. N. D. Gorman, for example, is now county agent leader. When he was appointed Peck's successor, he had just returned from World War I, where he served in the air force with Eddie Rickenbacker. E. J. Haslerud, who was Ward County agent from 1927 to 1929, is now director of extension in North Dakota; and John Husby, who after serving there as county agent, became State dairy commissioner.

The 30 years of agricultural extension work in the county was marked by a special edition of the Minot Daily News in which the editorial columns were largely devoted to a review of Extension's substantial and diverse accomplishments.

Handkerchief gardens

"Pocket handkerchief" green-leaf vegetable gardens—all a part of the Victory Garden campaign—flourished in Nevada mining camps, railroad communities, and near railroad section houses last summer. Leaf lettuce, Swiss chard, and other greens were grown to make up for the lack of products formerly shipped in. To maintain these improvised gardens, soil was hauled in, and nonsoapy waste water from the house was used for irrigation purposes.

Review 30 years of county agent work

■ How three decades of agricultural extension work has helped to prepare Ward County, N. Dak., farmers for taking a vital part in the wartime food-production program was reviewed during the thirtieth anniversary celebration of extension work at Minot Lake.

From its beginning there in 1913, the Extension Service has emphasized the need for a balanced type of farming enterprise and for maximum efficiency in productive effort as a means of stabilizing the economy of north-western North Dakota.

Livestock improvement, dairying, raising hogs and poultry, better seed varieties, feed crops, and soil and moisture conservation have been stressed. All these phases of Extension's varied program have contributed to the development of an agriculture which

could adjust itself quickly to the requirements of wartime as well as build for a permanent peacetime system.

So, in retrospect, 100 pioneer extension cooperators, city and county officials, and 5 former county agents at a dinner in Minot told of extension programs since the days of "better farming agents." They related their experiences with alfalfa and spoke of the influence of the first 20 purebred dairy heifers brought to Ward County, organization of the county fair, farm tours, and early extension activities.

Besides discussing the major objectives of improved agricultural practices and a better rural social life, they referred to the strides made in such specific things as 4-H Club work for farm boys and girls and

Calling all youth labor



■ Supt. H. L. Kistler, of Wood Lake, Nebr., is explaining to his group of high-school boys some things to consider in operating tractor and mower equipment.

It is all part of a plan started last summer by County Agent Edgar E. Van Boening to train Cherry County high-school students for farm work to help out in the labor shortage. As a result, a register of the rural and town high-school boys and girls of Cherry County was established. On file in the agent's office is an individual card index con-

taining each youth's name, address, age, parentage, availability, qualifications for summer work, and reference.

This youth registration has also helped the boys and girls to find work in their vacation periods. Last summer, 15 town boys and girls obtained work on ranches and farms. Several of them went out to the farms a week or two earlier to become better acquainted with their jobs.

Agent Van Boening has since been called to the service but E. M. Brouse carries on.

cooperation between the group leader and nutritionist taking part, the homemakers were led, step by step, into seeing the nutrition problem, and at the same time were influenced to do something about it. No attempt was made to high-pressure the women in this group into any kind of promise to serve these glandular meats. The discussion leader pointed out some of the difficulties nutritionists have in getting people to adopt new food habits, and appealed to the women, as representative housewives, to give their opinions as to the possible success of making a direct appeal to a group of homemakers like themselves. Through group discussion, this point was reached, and the reasons the meats have been rejected in the family diet were also brought out. The nutritionist then suggested various methods of getting around these difficulties.

The author of the study points out that the procedure followed in the group-decision meeting is not merely a group discussion, but a discussion leading to a decision by the individual; for instance, the housewife decides for herself what she will do at home.

Before the experiments, the frequency with which these meats were served by the lecture and group-decision participants was about equal. In both cases, kidneys and brains were very seldom served, and hearts were eaten only occasionally by less than half of each group. A census, taken 7 days after the experiment was made, showed that 10 percent of the lecture group, and 52 percent of the group-decision participants served at least one of the glandular meats.—**THE RELATIVE EFFECTIVENESS OF A LECTURE METHOD AND A METHOD OF GROUP DECISION FOR CHANGING FOOD HABITS**, by Kurt Lewin, Iowa State University. Copies available at the Committee on Food Habits, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.

Victory Gardens help school lunch

Valued at \$31,028, vegetables raised in South Dakota school Victory Gardens have contributed to the school lunch program this winter, according to Theodore Nickisch, chairman of the school lunch committee of the State Nutrition Committee.

Fifty-six schools reported 252 acres in gardens, with 11,591 quarts of vegetables canned, and 42,077 bushels stored or frozen. Nora M. Hott, State home demonstration leader and chairman of the State Nutrition Committee, says that these vegetables have added important vitamins, minerals, and other food nutrients to the diets of the school children.

Schools are making plans for raising, preserving, and storing more products. School boards, parent-teacher associations, extension clubs, and voluntary labor furnished the labor and equipment last year and are organizing victory volunteers to help in the school gardens and canning centers this year.

Do people like to eat kidneys, brains, and hearts?

■ Because of the general aversion to eating kidneys, brains, and hearts, the use of these glandular foods in the family diet was the basis of an interesting experiment carried out with 120 Iowa women. It was thought advisable to attempt a rather difficult food-habit change because this would be a more severe test of the methods, thus permitting safer conclusions.

In making the study, an attempt was made to find out whether the women would be influenced to change their food habits or food tastes more by listening to a lecture on nutrition which emphasized the diet value of kidneys, brains, and hearts; or by attending a meeting where similar information was given out through the method of group decision.

Women who had previously been organized in Red Cross home nursing courses—women from families in the higher, medium, and lower economic levels of a medium-sized Iowa

town—were chosen for the study. They were divided into two groups. One group of homemakers attended the lecture, and the other group participated in the meeting in which the group-decision method was used.

On the whole, the same information was given in the group-decision meeting as in the lecture, but in a more condensed form, which consumed only 7 to 10 minutes. In both the lecture and the group-decision meeting, the problem of nutrition was linked to the war effort. Information was given on the nutritive value of kidneys, brains, and hearts because of their vitamin and mineral content, and the women were told how to prepare them so as to camouflage odor, texture, and appearance. Mimeographed recipes were distributed to both groups.

The group-decision meeting went a step further than the lecture. In the group-decision meeting, which is a meeting based on

Design for leadership

"To train for leadership, let me see in you—a real leader." In these words Dr. F. B. Knight summarizes his suggested formula for training leaders. In discussing the importance of leader training in the wartime neighborhood-leader program he sets forth his observations on this current problem of extension workers.

Some of the high lights of his observations in training for leadership are:

1. To train for leadership, first understand what it is.
2. To lead and be led are relatively natural affairs. Every man should be a boss and have one.
3. Study leaders to be trained and give them vital goals to attain.
4. To train for leadership, give living examples of it yourselves.—*TRAINING FOR LEADERSHIP, by Dr. F. B. Knight, Purdue University. U. S. D. A. Ext. Serv. Circ. 398, Dec. 1942.*

Training helps to conserve clothing

To meet the wartime need for conserving clothing Massachusetts local leaders are using training received at 4-H tailoring schools in 1941. They are remodeling woolen garments with the touch of a professional, and in learning how to make less material go further they have reduced the cost of their clothes by making use of mill ends. The leaders have also developed better judgment in selecting ready-to-wear outfits.

Not only have the clothing leaders improved their own tailoring skills but they effectively passed the information on to others. During the year following their tailoring-school training, 16 of the 31 leaders reporting taught tailoring to 4-H clothing club members, and 5 leaders gave help in tailoring to homemakers in adult extension groups. Their indirect teaching influence was also considerable. Twenty-five local leaders gave their friends and neighbors helpful information on the techniques of tailoring.

Several of the leaders gave up their 4-H Club leadership because they went into volunteer civilian defense work and into war work. This fact, of course, diminished the teaching influence of these trained leaders.

All but 1 of the 31 leaders reported using the instruction received at the tailoring schools in some way. Twenty-five leaders made new woolen garments, 18 remodeled or repaired woolen garments, and 23 used the tailoring information in buying ready-to-wear outfits. Twenty-seven leaders believed they were more adept in making woolen garments with that "professional look," and 26 felt they were much better able to select good quality ready-to-wear apparel.—*FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF THE 4-H TAILORING SCHOOLS FOR LOCAL LEADERS, by Mrs. Esther C. Page and Marion E. Forbes, Massachusetts Extension Service; and Fred P. Frutchey, Federal Extension Service. Mass. Ext. Pub., 1943.*

EXTENSION RESEARCH

Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

Neighborhood leader pointers

Helpful suggestions for extension workers in carrying out neighborhood-leader activities can be found in two circulars recently prepared by Federal Extension staff members. Procedures being followed in neighborhood-leader work in several States are included in the circulars.

The need for adequately training neighborhood leaders is brought out in Extension Service Circular 397, Training Neighborhood Leaders, by Gladys Gallup. A suggestive outline for training neighborhood leaders is given with illustrations selected from several States of various methods and devices used in training neighborhood leaders such as: Leader-training meetings, handbook for neighborhood leaders, circular letters, leaflets, and visits to the neighborhood leaders.

Questions considered in the outline are these—

- Why neighborhood leaders need training.
- What training is needed.
- Who should train these leaders.
- How to train them.

How to check on the effectiveness of the training program.

The importance of maintaining the morale of neighborhood leaders is emphasized in Extension Service Circular 400, Suggestions for Building and Maintaining Interest and Enthusiasm of Neighborhood Leaders, by Lucinda Crile. Procedures are outlined for the following suggested steps which may be taken by State and county extension workers:

Give the neighbors an understanding of the neighborhood leader system and its importance.

Give the neighborhood leaders an understanding of their job and its importance.

Ask for suggestions and advice from neighborhood leaders.

Help and encourage neighborhood leaders. Avoid overloading the leaders.

Organize and plan the program carefully. Give public and official recognition to the leaders.

Reproductions of material used by various States in giving the leaders recognition are included, such as: Explanatory circular and letter to the neighbors, letter of appointment, identification card, button with official insignia, and certificates.

Streamlined studies

Time and effort devoted to gathering facts pertinent to the success of wartime programs will pay for themselves many times in the elimination of waste effort in carrying out our responsibilities on the agricultural front.

Facts about the response that families are making to wartime programs are the best measure of the contribution Extension is making toward our objective of winning the war. These facts are gathered quickly through use of "streamlined" research techniques adapted to administrative needs.

The studies of neighborhood leadership in Iowa, Massachusetts, and North Carolina are examples of what can be done in a short time. A total of 936 interviews were made the last of May and the first of June. The results of these studies were combined and were in the hands of all State directors in a little over 3 weeks' time.

Another example of speeding up research to meet wartime situations is the prestudy of the educational program for farm families on the meat situation. The sample was small, but provided a means for incorporating the ideas of farm families into the program. The reactions of the families interviewed indicated quite a different approach from the one first planned.

Streamlining research techniques to meet demands of wartime administration has been achieved in three ways: (1) The use of recently developed sampling techniques which make possible the drawing of accurate conclusions from a relatively small sample; (2) the use of short interviews or questionnaires that include a relatively small sample; (3) the use of machine tabulation.

Of importance to the success of Extension's wartime effort are the following three types of studies:

1. Quick checks on situations so that plans for wartime campaigns will be sound in terms of local problems.
2. Short studies on the factors affecting the functioning of the neighborhood-leader system.
3. Interviews with selected samples to determine the response they have made to wartime programs.—*APPLYING THE TECHNIQUES OF RESEARCH TO EXTENSION ADMINISTRATION, by Barnard Joy, Federal Extension Service. U. S. D. A. Ext. Serv. Circ. 396, Nov. 1942.*

■ An effective publication from Massachusetts consists of merely two letters, one from Mother and Dad telling the son at the front what was being done to support the battle front and another letter from Sammy at the front describing his end of the food line. The back page summarizes the four things you can do to help.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ AGNES HANSEN, formerly assistant State 4-H Club leader in South Dakota, on February 1 became assistant State club leader in Wisconsin. Miss Hansen succeeds Grace L. Rountree, who became district home demonstration agent leader.

Miss Hansen graduated from the North Dakota Agricultural College, taught home economics in high school, and was nutrition specialist on the North Dakota Extension staff before she became a county home demonstration agent in South Dakota. She left that position to become assistant State club leader, where she has served for the past 7 years.

B. S. Hinkle completes 20 years

■ County Agent B. S. Hinkle, who has just completed 20 years of service to farm people of Scott County, Ark., was honored on February 22 by farmers, businessmen, and professional agricultural workers at a surprise banquet.

The progress of the county's agriculture during the last two decades was summarized by the evening's speakers in paying tribute to Mr. Hinkle, whose thoughtful and energetic leadership they credited for much of the advancement.

Speakers included a key banker and close cooperator with Mr. Hinkle in many helpful projects for farm people, Gene Davidson, county judge; Theo Money, postmaster; Aubrey D. Gates, assistant extension director, and Ella Posey and J. O. Fullerton, district extension agents; all of the State Extension staff; and Diaz Day, chairman of the ceremony and secretary-treasurer of the Waldron Production Credit Association.

Using land like it ought to be used—for what it is best suited—has been Mr. Hinkle's text since he landed in Scott County in 1923 as county agent. Good livestock, good pastures and meadows, ample feed production, and supplemental cash crops were Mr. Hinkle's cures for the county's agricultural ills.

Among the milestones of progress of Scott County are the removal of tick quarantine of Scott County in 1928; the 50 percent reduction in cotton acreage; the introduction of lespedeza for hay, pasture, and soil improvement; the return of more than 10,000 acres of abandoned land to production by the adoption of recommended soil-building practices; the improvement of several thousand acres of Bermuda grass pasture by overseeding with clovers and lespedeza; the introduction of supplemental cash crops; the location of a cheese plant in the county to expand the outlet for increased dairy production; the

importation of 214 purebred beef bulls and 78 purebred dairy sires into the county for herd improvement; the establishment of outstanding credit rating for the county as the result of livestock becoming the backbone of the county's farm credit structure; and the participation of 3,189 Scott County boys in 4-H Club work.

The recognition ceremony was sponsored by farm people of the county, the Waldron Young Business Men's Association, and the County Agricultural Workers Association as a token of sincere appreciation and admiration for the leadership Mr. Hinkle has given this county in his years of service, Mr. Day said.

■ HARRIETTE BENEDICT LAYTON, assistant State home demonstration agent of South Carolina, died at her home in Rock Hill, S. C., in the early morning of February 8. Miss Layton was apparently in her usual health a few hours prior to her death, caused by an acute heart attack.

Harriette Layton was 64 years of age, the last 19½ years of which she served in the South Carolina Extension Service as assistant State home demonstration agent. Prior to this service, she taught school in Vermont and Florida, later joining the extension staff of Florida as home agent, then district agent, and later assistant State agent. From 1912 to 1915 she was engaged in welfare work for the Carhartt Mills of Rock Hill, S. C.

She was a faithful and enthusiastic member of the Epsilon Sigma Phi, the National extension fraternity, and was a charter member of the Alpha Phi Chapter of South Carolina. Her interests were always for the rural homes, for more reading material, more knowledge, better home management, more income for the farm family, greater leadership among rural women, and more social life of a higher type. She will be missed wherever extension work is known in South Carolina.

■ ALBERT HOEFER has been appointed New York State 4-H Club leader to succeed W. J. Wright, recently retired. Mr. Hoefer was one of the original county club agents in Rensselaer County, appointed when 4-H Club work was officially started in New York in 1919. Graduated from the College of Agriculture, Cornell University, he had charge of war gardens in the city of Troy during the first World War. As assistant State 4-H Club leader since 1931 and more recently as acting State 4-H Club leader, he has directed the activities of New York's 35,000 4-H Club members. During the past year, as executive secretary of the New York State Victory Garden Council, he has directed the Victory Garden program of the State.

■ Ten families of the Fairchild community, Fort Bend County, Tex., have bought nearly \$2,000 worth of bonds from the sale of eggs, chickens, cream, butter, fresh fruits, and vegetables.

IN BRIEF

Mending for victory day

Camp Wallace, in Galveston County, Tex., asked for volunteers to mend, darn, and patch for the soldiers. After having a "mend, darn, and patch" demonstration, the home demonstration clubwomen decided that was one thing they could do to help Uncle Sam. Each Tuesday they take a portable sewing machine and necessary mending equipment along with their lunch, and off to Camp Wallace they go to spend the day sewing for the soldiers. They call it mending for Victory Day. The soldiers leave their bundles of clothes for mending, and the women enjoy the day together doing their bit. Needless to say, the soldiers are grateful for this sewing "like Mother used to do."

4-H poultry for the soldiers

Approximately 15,000 4-H boys and girls in 65 Tennessee counties marketed their roasting chickens on a cooperative basis last year. The roasters were sold f. o. b. to the highest bidder, and practically all the output went directly into the dressing plants to fill U. S. Army contracts. "This is one of the most successful 4-H poultry projects we have had, and it is anticipated that all the counties in the State will be represented this year," said Marketing Specialist A. L. Jerdan.

■ News is already coming in telling how county agents are gearing their work to the production problems of their own county. In Montana, Blaine County is working on maximum hog production. Among their activities are 2 bred gilt sales planned for March. The agent started the idea rolling in December when he asked large hog breeders in the county to breed a number of gilts for the sales. They responded nobly, and 200 gilts are being held back for breeding purposes, to be sold in the March sales. This number is over and above those which the breeders are keeping for their own use.

On the Calendar

4-H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, April 3.
Eastern Sociological Society, New York, N. Y., April 10-11.
American Chemical Society, Indianapolis, Ind., April 12-16.
American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, a department of the National Education Association, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 14-17.
National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D. C., April 26.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

ROLL CALL for victory home food supply brought the wartime need for more home-grown food to the attention of a large number of farm families last month. Proclamations from the governors of Utah, Idaho, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Connecticut, Delaware, New Hampshire, Kansas, and Tennessee gave excellent support to the program. The Governor of Arizona opened roll call in a radio broadcast with 5 farm women from 5 different counties in the State taking part. In Utah, 28 of the 29 counties were visited by members of the State staff, to follow up on neighborhood-leadership and county program planning. Emphasis was placed on food production and other phases of wartime living.

POULTRY PRODUCTION featured the food-supply drive in Iowa. The entire staff was given training in poultry production which was passed on in local training schools in every county. Demand for further help in canning, drying, brining, and storage of food will be met in a series of meetings for both rural and urban women during April and May, well ahead of the garden season.

SPECIAL EDITION of the New Mexico Extension Service News last month was devoted to roll call. The President of the Federated Women's Clubs, a 4-H Club winner in gardens, leaders from Grant County, Mora County, Guadalupe, and Santa Fe Counties were among those contributing. The Utah Farmer also devoted the March issue to the family food supply theme. This periodical goes to a high percentage of farm families in the State and is proving useful as a reference for demonstration schedules.

THE BATTLE CRY for thousands of Florida farm women is "Back to the home for food." Jackson County boasts that there will soon be 6,000 home vegetable gardens and calls particular attention to the fine gardens grown by farm women whose sons, husbands, or brothers in uniform are stationed in all parts of the world. "Farmers who do not produce may not eat," said Director Hutcheson of Virginia in outlining plans for enrolling every farm family in Virginia.

HOME CANNING EQUIPMENT may stretch around the needs of the victory home food supply producers with careful planning and maximum use of other methods of conservation. Early in March, WPB allocated steel for 150,000 steel canners of the 7-quart type, which are not enough to meet the demand but more than were manufactured last year. It was expected that the first canners would come from production lines this month. The Department of Agriculture is responsible for

allocating these canners where they are most needed based on the number of people using the canner, their need for canned products, and the extent to which the canners will be used to capacity. WPB and the glass industry have promised to make every effort to insure plenty of jars for 1943. It looks as if there would be enough jar seals, and there is no restriction on tin cans for canners for home consumption.

GARDEN PROGRAMS can be dressed up with the visual aids now available. These include slidefilms on gardening and insects, exhibit materials for making window displays, and posters from OWI. Complete details in the next issue of the REVIEW. In the meantime consult your extension editor.

POINT RATIONING education for farm families has been assigned to the Extension Service, and home demonstration agents particularly are doing a fine job in explaining the "why" and "hows" to rural women. Four helps were sent out for this work—a campaign handbook, a leaflet for direct mailing to every farmer in the county, three posters for every agent, and a chart book—24 by 30 inches—prepared especially for talks before small groups.

IMPROVING EFFICIENCY IN THE HOME so that farm women can keep up the essential home tasks and at the same time do the necessary work in the fields and around the farm under present conditions is proving popular with home demonstration women. A new bulletin from the State of Washington, Step by Step in Everyday Tasks, by Esther

Pond, with pictures and text, shows how to do household tasks the simplest and best way to relieve war pressures on the homemaker's time.

VICTORY FARM VOLUNTEERS coming to Illinois farms will find the new bulletin, Living and Working on a Farm, a great help. Prepared for high-school boys and girls from cities and towns, the bulletin is well illustrated and classified and is presented in a form easily understood. Crowded into the 60 pages are the principal things they will need to know about and save the new worker much embarrassment. It was prepared by the Extension Service for use in schools and published by the State Council of Defense. "Guides to successful employment of nonfarm youth in wartime agriculture," prepared by the Children's Bureau, is a smaller publication illustrated with sketches to help make the meaning clear, and will be found useful to those supervising or employing young people.

KENTUCKY 4-H CLUBS report their contributions to the Victory farm food supply campaign in impressive numbers. Last year club members had 7,935 gardens; this year they are counting on 50,000. Last year 6,424 girls each canned about 100 jars of fruits, vegetables, and meats. This year 25,000 girls plan to put up a half million jars. Last year 5,283 club members worked on poultry projects; this year they have set a goal of 15,000.

NATIONAL NEGRO HEALTH WEEK, April 4 to 11, is occupying an important place in extension programs throughout Negro rural areas. With the special objective of Health on the Home Front—Victory on the War Front, Negro communities are studying their health needs and planning ways of building a stronger health front under the leadership of the Public Health Service.

MUSIC WEEK begins May 2 and emphasizes the wartime service of music in strengthening of friendly ties among peoples of the United Nations. The special keynote is Foster American and World Unity Through Music. War-time emergencies and difficulties in travel have cut down the extension activity in music in many States. Farm women's choruses have in so many cases had to disband for the duration, but in Jackson County, Mo., the women feel that music has a definite part in helping to keep up morale and have enrolled 86 women, representing more than half of the extension clubs in the county. The chorus is organized in 7 sections each, with its own director, accompanist, president, sheet music, and transportation chairman. Each section practices weekly, and the 7 units come together for a monthly practice. Iowa, with its well-known rural music program, is turning to the radio as one way to bring music into farm homes under war conditions.

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